

Key Components of Accreditation (6-11-08)

Accreditation processes are complex and multi-faceted and require extensive planning and coordination to be successfully conducted. The table below is intended to describe the many parts or components of accreditation systems.

This Table is specific to the 2008 Standards Performance Evaluation process conducted in Washington State. The last three columns referring to "In Place", "Modify" and "Still Need" are intended to describe the type of work that will be needed to transition the current WA Standards Evaluation process to an accreditation process.

Component or Task	Description	In Place	Modify	Still Need
Standards for Performance	Performance Standards and measures are developed for accreditation surveys, including the intent and interpretation of the standards, timeframes and some examples		X	
Applicability	Determine if the measure is applicable to the entire agency being reviewed, or to all programs in the agency, or to specific programs within the agency, such as CD or EH programs		X	
Review Method	Determine how measures will be reviewed; once for the site or through a sample review of two or more programs		X	
Measure Scoring Categories	Determine how measures will be scored, e.g. continue three levels or change to five scoring levels		X	
Accreditation Survey Process	Determine process for accreditation surveys			X
Applicant Eligibility	Determine which agencies and public health organizations are eligible to apply for accreditation			X
Readiness Process	Determine the advance study and preparation process required prior to submission of a formal application		X	
Guidance for Standards Interpretation	Produced by accreditation entity with expert consultation, to be used by sites for the self-evaluation process and by reviewers for scoring		X	
Data Collection Method (Database)	Build database for scoring during site visits and for reports		X	
Training for Applicants in Standards	Curriculum and faculty development; registration, etc.	X		
Site Preparation for Accreditation Survey	Process and materials for training for sites to prepare for accred. survey	X		

Component or Task	Description	In Place	Modify	Still Need
Reviewer Teams	Composition of teams; contractors, peers/volunteers or mix, selection process, training, inter-reviewer reliability processes and evaluation of reviewers		X	
Quality Review	Conduct quality review of scoring and comments to assure accuracy.	X		
Survey Reports	Determine composition of reports and how reports will be generated.	X		
Distribution of Survey Reports	Determine how reports are distributed and if publicly reported.	X		
Examples of Excellence	Determine how accreditation process will include the identification and collection of examples of excellence in meeting the standards	X		
Accreditation Entity	Establish formal accreditation body to make policy decisions and to confer accreditation status			X
Accreditation Status	Determine parameters of accreditation status; levels, periodicity of surveys based on status, etc.			X
Overall Accreditation Scoring Methodology	Determine how individual measure scoring categories feed into the accreditation scoring process			X
Pass / Fail or Core Requirements	Determine if any measures are Pass / Fail or if some measures are identified as core requirements			X
Weighting of Standards and Measures	Determine if standards and measures will be given different points toward accreditation status			X
Health Indicators	Determine if and how performance on health indicators will be integrated into overall score for conferring accreditation status.			X
Resources to Support Accreditation	Provide the funding and staff resources needed to support accreditation at the local and state level			X
Appeals Process	Establish process for sites to appeal accreditation decisions			X